Flynt Connections Alleged

CLEVELAND—Hustler Magazine owner Larry Flynt laid the foundation for his multimillion-dollar publishing enterprise with the financial help of vending machine companies that are allegedly linked to organized crime, The Cleveland Press has reported.

Flynt was paralyzed from the thighs down by a sniper in March outside a Lawrenceville, Ga., courthouse, where he was being tried on obscenity charges.

In reviewing Flynt's alleged organized crime connections, The Press noted that Gwinnett County, Ga., District Attorney Bryant Huff said Flynt "was stalked by more than one gunman" who may have acted at the direction of underworld bosses.

The Press' report said: "Looking over Flynt's checkered past, evidence clearly shows that Flynt entered businesses where mobsters traditionally have exerted great influence, such as nightclubs, vending machines and pornography."